



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Federal Subsistence Management Update

May 2022

CHRIS MCKEE
BLM SUBSISTENCE
COORDINATOR
PMCKEE@BLM.GOV





Federal Subsistence Board (FSB) Events Spring and Summer 2022

- April 12-15 Regulatory Meeting
- May 4th meeting to deliberate Fisheries Special Action (FSA) 22-01/2/3/4
- June 22nd meeting to deliberate Wildlife Special Action (WSA) 22-02
- July 26-27 Summer Work Session
- Agendas and other documents:
www.doi.gov/subsistence





FSB April Wildlife Regulatory Meeting

BLM related proposals and special actions

- 12 Proposals and Closure Reviews relevant to BLM-managed lands
- One Temporary Wildlife Special Action (WSA22-01)





BLM-related Wildlife Proposal (WP) highlights

- WP22-01 and WP22-02: revised regulations governing individual harvest limits and designated hunting in communities with a community harvest system
- WP22-47: requested allowing for the harvest of caribou calves in Unit 22
- WP22-49: requested that the Federal lands closure to moose hunting by NFQU be rescinded in Unit 22 North
- WP22-54: requested modification of a hunt area boundary for moose in Unit 26A



Temporary WSA22-01

- Submitted by the BLM and National Park Service
- Requested revision of the way in which the hunt for muskox was administered in Units 22 and 23
- Requested standardizing the language in the Delegation of Authority Letters for these hunts



Temporary WSA22-02

- Submitted by the Western Interior Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
- Requests that Dall's sheep hunting on Federal public lands in Unit 24A and Unit 26B, west of the Sagavanirktok River be closed to all users for the 2022-2024 wildlife regulatory cycle
- Severe declines in Dall's sheep population in recent years along with very poor lamb production and very few legal rams available for harvest
- Authority for closure to all users in ANILCA Section 816(b)
- Board will meet June 22nd to deliberate and make a final decision



FSB Summer Work Session Issues

- Federal Subsistence Management Correspondence Policy
- Online Subsistence Permitting
- Annual Report Replies
- Annual Report Reply process
- RAC nominations



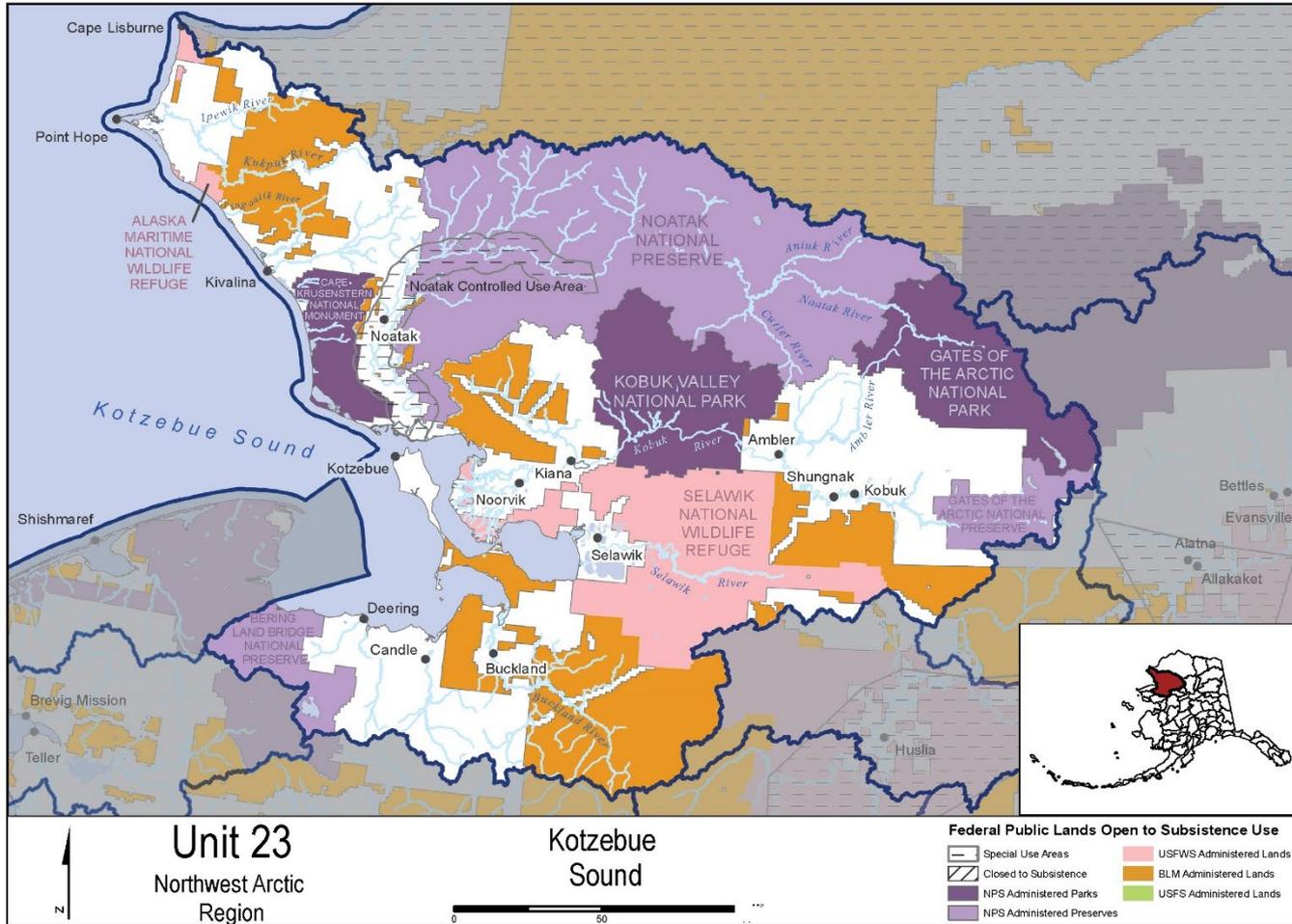


Update on Temporary WSA21-01

- Board voted to close Noatak National Preserve (including the Nigu River portion of the Preserve in GMU 26A) and BLM-managed lands between the Noatak and Kobuk rivers in Unit 23 to caribou hunting by non-Federally qualified users from Aug. 1-Sept. 30 during the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 regulatory years **and** all Federal public lands in Unit 23 to moose hunting for the same time period.
- Original request was to close caribou and moose hunting on Federal public lands in Units 23 and 26A to non-Federally qualified users Aug. 1 to Sept. 30, 2022.
- Proponents were concerned that sport hunters were deflecting the migratory route of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd (WACH) away from villages, preventing rural hunters from harvesting caribou.
- Decision deferred by the Board in June 2021.
- Western Arctic Caribou Herd numbers at 188,000 animals in 2021, down from 244,000 animals in 2019.

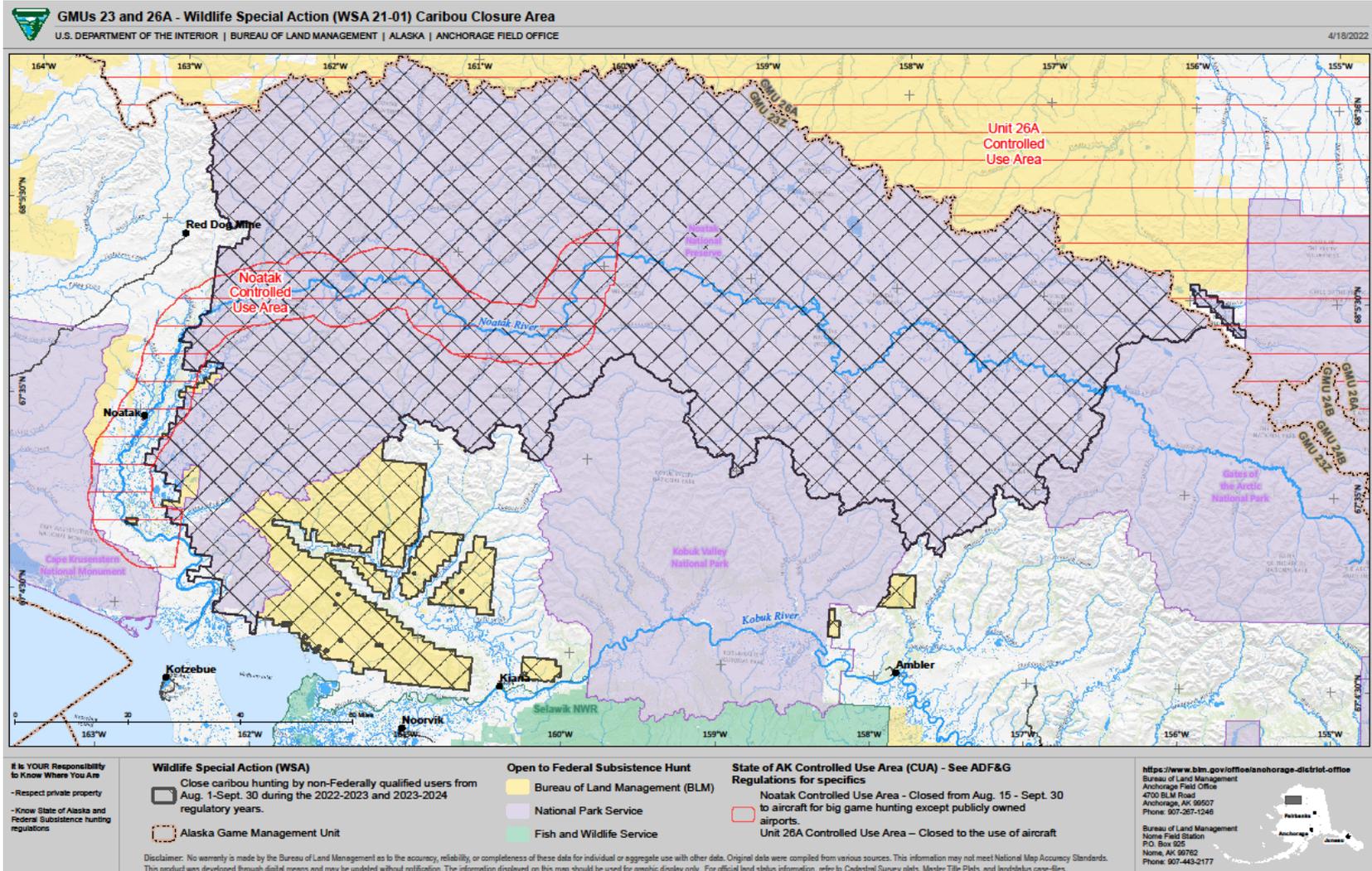


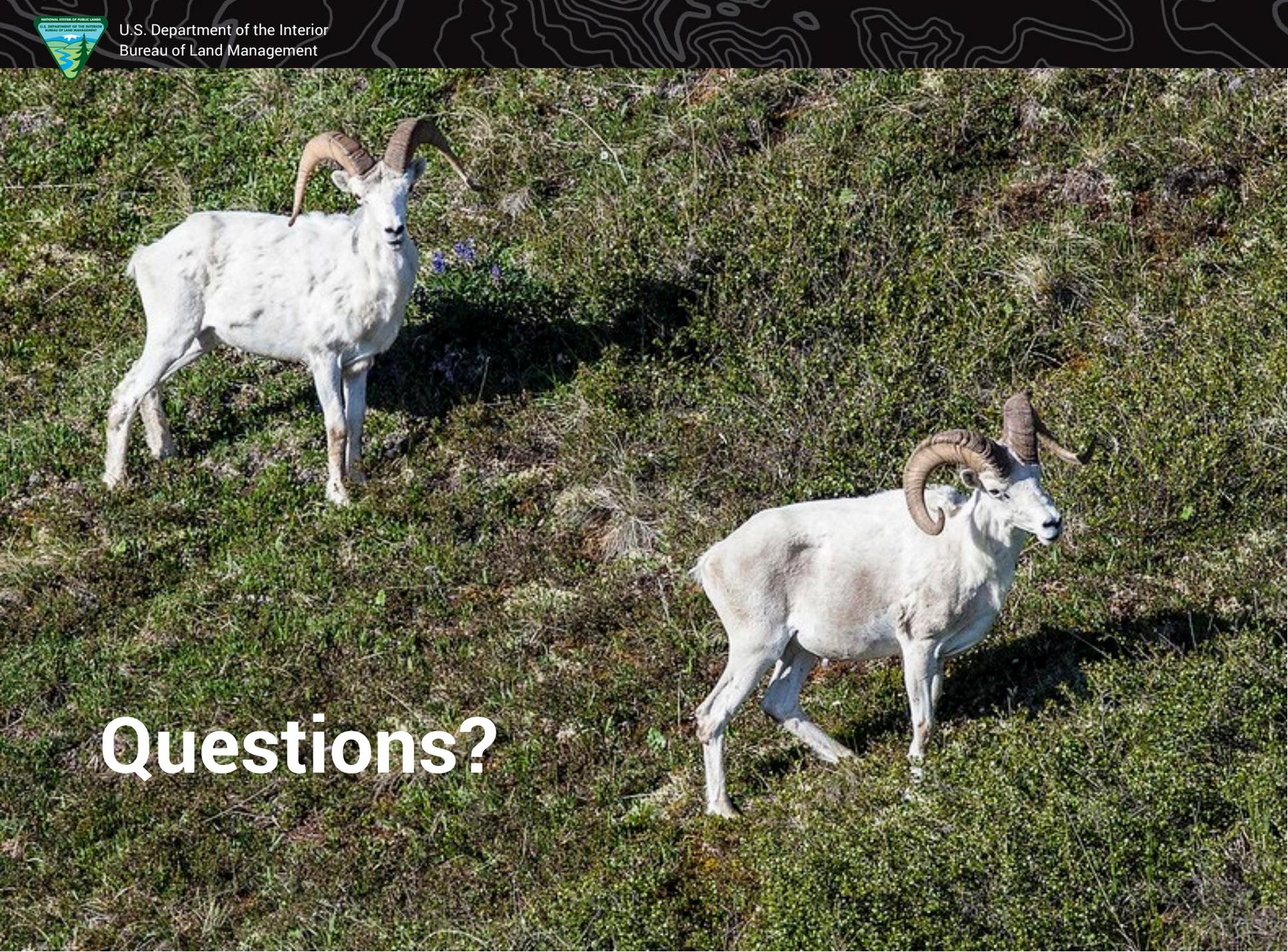
Game Management Unit 23





Federal lands closure for caribou (WSA21-01a)



A photograph of two bighorn sheep standing in a grassy field. The sheep are white with prominent, curved, brown horns. They are facing each other, with one slightly ahead of the other. The background is a dense field of green grass and some small purple flowers.

Questions?